

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 and 78-85 are pending in this application. Claims 79-85 are new and include the limitations of claims 17-20 and 23-25, respectively. Claim 1 is amended herein to include the limitations of claim 77. Claim 77 is therefore canceled. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner asserted that claims 1-13, 18, and 20-22 are unpatentable over Gill (U.S. 6,456,469 B1) in view of Lee et al. (hereinafter Lee) (U.S. 5,731,936) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The Examiner further asserted that claims 14-16 are unpatentable over Gill and Lee et al. as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Ohta et al. (U.S. 5,958,611). Applicants respectfully disagree in light of the amendment to claim 1.

Claim 1 is amended herein to include the limitations of claim 77, which was objected to in the September 30, 2005 Office action due to its dependence on a rejected base claim. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's willingness to allow the subject matter of claim 77 if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In light of the amendment herein to claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 77, Applicants submit that claims 1-13, 14-16, 18, and 20-22 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

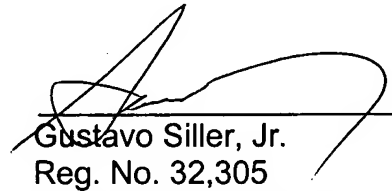
Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 17-20 and 23-25 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and stated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's willingness to allow the subject matter of these claims if rewritten. In light of this, Applicants submit that new independent claims 79-85, which include all of the limitations of claims 17-20 and 23-25, are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the Examiner allow these claims.

SUMMARY

Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent for the Applicants via telephone if such communication would expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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